

7th Sunday of Pentecost

Proper 10

Gathering

Call to Worship

We rejoice in God's presence!

Sensed on a sunlit day, reflected in the calm lake, God is with us.

We rejoice in God's presence!

Sensed in the hug of a child, reflected in the closeness of a couple long-married, God is with us.

We rejoice in God's presence!

Sensed in the faith community at prayer, reflected in an unnoticed caring act, God is with us.

We rejoice in God's presence!

Sensed in the living words of Jesus Christ, reflected in those through whom his Spirit moves, God is with us.

Let us worship God.

Prayer of Approach

Renewing, redeeming, and restoring God:

**You created the world with a Word,
You moved in this world as one of us,
You speak to each one of us like a parent to their children.**

**Lead us from sin and brokenness into life in Your Spirit,
so that we can live lives free of death, decay, and despair,
lives that serve and glorify You.**

We ask in the Name of the Holy Spirit, who dwells in each of us.

Amen.

Offertory Prayer

You have so gracefully shared Your creation and Your love for us, O God, and we respond with wholehearted thanksgiving.

**We thank You through our acts of worship;
we thank You as we carefully serve others;**

we thank You with these our gifts, given to sustain Your faith community here, and to sustain faith communities far from here.

Bless all our gifts, as You have blessed us in the gift of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Listening

Children's Time

Reading: [Genesis 25:19-34](#) (*The Message*)

Isaac has two sons, Esau and Jacob. Like many brothers, they fought with each other, even before they were born. What does this mean for us, when we have disagreements or fights with other people?

Questions

1. What part of this passage did you like the best?
2. What part of this passage was most important?
3. What part of this passage could we take away and still have all the story we need?
4. What part of this passage seems like your life?

Sermon

Reading: [Romans 8:1-11](#) (NRSV)

Having established that the Law is necessary, but not enough to save us, Paul now answers the rhetorical question from last week: "Who will save me?" We know the answer, but how does God act to save us?

Questions

1. What parts of the first version of the Gospel seem familiar? What parts are problematic?
 2. What parts of the second Gospel seem familiar? Which version feels like a better representation to you?
 3. What does it mean that God condemns sin?
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Serving

Prayers of the People

In Your mercy, God, deliver us.

Help us to dwell in Your Spirit.

Closing Hymn

"Day After Day" Tim Hughes

Benediction

God's generosity, given freely, given abundantly, amazes us.

We will share the spirit of generosity with those around us.

We will be ready to befriend the lonely.

We will be ready to help the downhearted.

We will take time to listen and understand.

July 12th, 2020

Toronto Chinese United Church
Rev'd Tom MacNeil

**We will proclaim the faith with boldness and with sensitivity.
We will act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God.**

Amen